



First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – September 8, 2015

FirstNet News

- The next in-person SPOC meeting will be held on October 7-8 in Westminster, CO. This two-day meeting, which is open to up to three attendees per state and territory, will be designed based on the feedback and successes of the spring SPOC meeting. In addition to the SPOCs, we have invited the PSAC Executive Committee and Tribal Working Group members to attend. Please register online via the [meeting registration website](#), where you will also find additional information regarding the draft agenda and hotel.
- This week, we will be holding the Alaska initial consultation meeting, which will include visits to three Native villages by several FirstNet staff members, and participating in a meeting at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC).
- Tribal Working Group member Robert DesRosier (Blackfeet), a delegate from the National Tribal Emergency Management Council (NTWMC), had an op-ed regarding FirstNet data collection published in *Indian Country Today* (see media item below). Concurrently, FirstNet released a [two-minute video](#) on its YouTube channel encouraging collaboration between States and tribes in collecting data before September 30.
- Last week, FirstNet Board members and staff participated in the Michigan and New Jersey initial consultation meetings, the New Jersey BTOP event, the Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA) Annual Meeting, and on a National Institute of Justice (NIJ) expert panel regarding broadband communications and law enforcement.
- To date, FirstNet has held 49 initial state consultation meetings involving more than 3,300 public safety representatives. Future consultations are confirmed for: Arizona (9/29), Virginia (9/30), CNMI (10/20), Guam (10/22), and Oklahoma (10/28). An updated schedule can be viewed on the [website tracker](#).
- FirstNet has scheduled engagements with the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on 9/14, the Emergency Communications Preparedness Center (ECPC) on 9/15, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) CIO's council on 9/24.

News from the PSAC, States, and Territories

- As we near the September 30 deadline for initial data collection, we are asking states and territories to share their data collection updates.
 - Michigan is taking an approach to data collection that leverages the strong engagement of the county public safety answering point (PSAP) directors, targets public safety agencies, and prioritizes relevant data sets. The final data will be presented on a GIS map with several layers. Using a survey incorporating the questions in the Mobile Data Survey Tool (MDST), Michigan included additional questions in order to collect information that will aid in the planning of future next generation 911 efforts. A supplemental survey was developed using the Michigan FirstNet base layers for potential coverage consideration and distributed to those agencies for whom a specific contact person could be identified. Respondents were asked to identify areas currently without wireless coverage that they felt should be included in the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN). A request was sent to all PSAP directors requesting that they furnish calls for service location data. To alleviate confidentiality concerns, the request specifically asked for location information broken down only by discipline for mapping purposes. Prior to actual mapping, an analysis and prioritization of the layers will be conducted based upon the nature of the data in each layer, allowing the determination to be based solely on the data rather than the specific geographic location and impact. The final product will allow the State Interoperability Governance Board (SIGB) to develop a phased implementation plan for consultation discussions with FirstNet. For additional information, contact Laura Blastic at blasticl@michigan.gov.
 - FirstNet will continue to feature various State data collection efforts over the next few weeks. If you would like to highlight your state or territory's effort, please email outreach@firstnet.gov.

Media Watch

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Traditional Media

There was significant media coverage this week on FirstNet activities, with several follow-on articles about Industry Day, including the cybersecurity discussion from the event, early

in the week . Other notable FirstNet media reports included the early builder projects, with the New Jersey project receiving major coverage based on the release they put out about using the network at recent events in Atlantic City.

FCW: FirstNet Woos Potential Bidders

<http://fcw.com/articles/2015/08/28/firstnet-woos-potential-bidders.aspx>

And although \$6.5 billion is real money, it is nowhere near what it will cost to build and maintain the network. At an Aug. 27 industry day, FirstNet President TJ Kennedy offered industry incentives to participate -- primarily access to the FirstNet spectrum on a shared-use basis, a share in user feeds, and access to a rapidly transforming marketplace for broadband-powered public safety devices and applications.

Urgent Communications: FirstNet Sets Bar High For Cybersecurity While Pursuing Ambitious Timeline

<http://urgentcomm.com/blog/firstnet-sets-bar-high-cybersecurity-while-pursuing-ambitious-timeline>

At a time high-profile government and corporate entities are suffering data breaches on a regular basis, FirstNet officials want to develop a cybersecurity solution that will be effective long term, is affordable and can be executed without disrupting first responders from their primary missions. Sounds challenging, especially given FirstNet's goal of issuing a final RFP—with cybersecurity—by the end of the year.

Urgent Communications: FirstNet Seeks To 'Rock The Cyber World' With Security Input Via Special-Notice Proceeding

<http://urgentcomm.com/public-safety-broadbandfirstnet/firstnet-seeks-rock-cyber-world-security-input-special-notice-procee>

FirstNet will issue a special notice this month to initiate a proceeding that is designed to identify the cybersecurity requirements that will be included in the request for proposal (RFP) for the much-anticipated nationwide public-safety broadband network, FirstNet's cybersecurity expert said during the Industry Day event last week.

Radio Resource/Mission Critical: Atlantic City Beach Concerts Test New Jersey's Early Builder Project

<http://www.radioresourcemag.com/News/NewsDetails/NewsID/13369>

The Atlantic City (New Jersey) Police Department, in conjunction with the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (OHSP), deployed secure and portable public-safety Long Term Evolution (LTE) technology during two concerts. The technology allowed reliable, uninterrupted transmission of video, voice and radio communications without reliance on commercial broadband providers. Related Link:

<http://pallone.house.gov/press-release/pallone%E2%80%99s-superstorm-sandy-forum-takes-critical-look-lessons-learned-and-progress-made>

Indian Country Today Media Network: The Safety of Our Communities Depends on Data

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2015/09/03/safety-our-communities-depends-data>

The lives of responders—like cops, firefighters, paramedics—is about to change...dramatically. That's because a nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN) is coming...quickly. There is still time, however, to have an impact on this government program that will impact all tribes. The First Responder Network Authority, or FirstNet, is a first-of-its-kind cellular data network, with an expansive and inclusive stakeholder outreach program designed to create opportunities for public safety to provide input and feedback on the network.

Web and Social Media

FirstNet social media was active this week, with the Indiana and New Jersey consultations driving much of the discussion, in addition to media coverage. Twitter increased to 2,625 followers, with many followers joining from the New Jersey consultation and early builder event; LinkedIn increased to 935 users; YouTube increased to 155 subscribers; and Google+ has 51 users.

FirstNet posted 3 blog entries in the past week, including [The Win-Win-Win Business Model](#) by new FirstNet CEO Mike Poth that was covered in some trade publications. In addition, blogs included [Virginia Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Provides Assistance To Nepal Earthquake](#) by Zachary Smith, FirstNet Emergency Management Specialist and Fairfax County volunteer firefighter, and [How Does the Federal Government Help](#)

[Communities Leverage Data-Driven Change to Improve Public Safety?](#), which was reposted from the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) website. All blog posts can also be accessed through the FirstNet blog landing page at: www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog.